



Jan 26, 2023

**FOIA REQUEST**  
**EPA Headquarters**

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request minutes from all meetings with any EPA staff member and Todd Stedeford, who has served as an attorney at Bergeson & Campbell since May 1, 2021. These meetings may include but should not be limited to meetings on the following dates. Please note that all descriptors and lists of possible attendees below are offered as possible help in identifying the specific meetings but should not be used to exclude any meeting minutes if the subject or attendees were in fact different. Note that these meetings were mentioned in email correspondence released through FOIA EPA-2022-001782.

5/20/2021 - Meeting that may have included Annie Jarabek and Tala Henry

5/21/2021 - Meeting that may have included Annie Jarabek and Tala Henry

6/2/2021 - May be listed as Executive Check on PSLT & Surfactants

6/3/2021 - May be listed as Executive check on PSLT & Surfactants

6/10/2021 - May be listed as "Check in PSLT"

6/21/2021 - May be listed as "SR"

6/25/2021 - May be listed as PLST & Surfactants/Show Stopper: MPPD Simulations

6/29/2021 - Attendees may include Tala Henry, Claire Terry (of Corteva); Carol Hirn (of JTI), and Andreas Stucki (of PETA)

7/1/2021 - Attendees may include Tala Henry, Claire Terry (of Corteva); Carol Hirn (of JTI), and Andreas Stucki (of PETA). This meeting was set up to repeat on the first Thursday of every month. Those dates include 8/5/2021, 9/2/2021, 10/7/2021, 11/4/2021, 12/2/2021, 1/6/2022, 2/3/2022, 3/3/2022, 4/7/2022, 5/5/2022, 6/2/2022, 7/7/2022, 8/4/2022, 9/1/2022, 10/6/2022, 11/3/2022, 12/1/2022

10/1/2021 - Meeting Agenda • HEC calculations completed • Surfactant revisions status • PSLT revisions status • Assoc of Inhalation Toxicologists Posters. Restart on Finalization of IATA

10/22/2021 - Meeting to discuss IATA manuscripts

I would like to receive the information in the following format: electronic.

I am available to discuss the scope of the request and any questions by phone (718-877-5236) or email ([sharon.lerner@propublica.org](mailto:sharon.lerner@propublica.org)).

As a representative of the news media I am only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. This information is being sought on behalf of ProPublica, an independent, non-profit news organization, for dissemination to the general public.

Please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information is in the public interest because it will contribute significantly to public understanding of government operations and activities. As a non-profit journalistic entity, ProPublica does not have the same commercial interests of other news organizations.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

I also ask that this request be expedited under terms of the Freedom of Information Act. Expedited processing is allowed for requests that show a "compelling need," and ProPublica is primarily engaged in disseminating information, with an urgency to inform the public concerning federal government activity.

As the Act states, you have 10 days to decide whether to grant expedited processing.

Our rationale for expedited processing under the "compelling need" stipulation is as follows:

Previous reporting has shown substantial allegations of wrongdoing on the part of Todd Stedeford. A group of whistleblowers accused Stedeford of deleting hazards written into chemical assessments and otherwise putting the interests of chemical companies over human health concerns. (See this series by [The Intercept](#).) After he left EPA to join Bergeson & Campbell, Stedeford continued to work closely with several EPA staff members on issues that have critical ongoing importance for human health, including the assessment of polymer chemicals that may have significant health effects, including cancer. (See [this story](#) from ProPublica.) Given their ongoing significance in matters of life and death, it is urgently important that the public understand what was discussed at these meetings and whether the interests of industry, which Stedeford represents in his current job, were given undue influence over regulatory matters being considered by the Environmental Protection Agency.

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findings with the public) where there is “an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity,” as the compelling need provision requires.

I certify that my statements concerning the need for expedited processing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I look forward to your reply, as the statute requires.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

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